This year’s Cougar basketball team is doing very well, helped out in part by junior Mark Pollack (33). Pollack is a 6’7” forward for the men’s varsity team. This is Pollack’s third year on the varsity squad and he is dominating.

“Mark is a great player. Most teams struggle guarding him because it is rare in high school basketball to have a big man who can step outside and consistently knock down long range shots, combine that with his great passing ability and he is a very dangerous player,” said junior guard David Belfield.

This season Pollack is averaging 14.6 points per game, second only to Robert Champion, who averages 20.2 points per game. He also averages 5.7 steals per game and 1.7 assists.

“My best game would either be against Brother Martin in the Christmas Tournament or Ardrey Kell. In those 2 games Pollack averaged 22 points and 5.5 rebounds.

Pollack’s success on the court, however, does not come easy. He trains during and after the season.

“During the season I don’t lift as much, but in the offseason I try to get to the gym at least 5 times a week,” said Pollack.

Pollack also keeps his skills honed in the offseason by playing for the SC Raptors, a premier AAU basketball team based in the Carolinas.

Coach King has also been a major influence in Pollack’s training.

“He pushes us hard in practice, but we still have a good time,” said Pollack.

Offers from colleges have already started coming in for Pollack. He has been offered a full athletic scholarship at Presbyterian College in Clinton, South Carolina and has been scouted by multiple different schools.

“The two schools that I really hope to play basketball at are either Appalachian State University or the College of Charleston,” said Pollack.

Although he ultimately would love to be a professional basketball player, Pollack hopes that sports play a role in his post college life, whether it be an announcer, reporter, or scout.

Basketball was not always Pollack’s main sport, he used to play baseball and football, but now that he is in high school, he focuses mainly on basketball.